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RF/MAX PROFESSIONALS





#### **Storm surge**

Highland Storm Sharp Electric U15 LL centre Haiden Bird rushes the puck deep in the South Muskoka Bears end during minor hockey action on Sunday, Oct. 23 at the A.J. LaRue Arena in Haliburton. Bird scored four goals to lead all players while teammates Nathan Guild scored two, and one each for Ethan Rowe, Brady Hamilton, Logan Reid and Erik Bird. The shutout was earned by Storm goalie Taylor Consack. See more photos on page 9. /DARREN LUM Staff

## AH votes in Danielsen

by JAMES MATTHEWS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Algonquin Hills voters elevated their deputy mayor to the town council's big chair.

Liz Danielsen, the township's deputy mayor through the last four years, was chosen to be the next mayor with 1,204 voters in the Oct. 24 municipal election.

She was selected to replace Carol Moffatt, who didn't run in the election, by a margin of 140 ballots over Mike Lang.

Lang, the other candidate in the two-horse race for the top spot, garnered 1,064 votes.

The town's deputy mayor will be elected during the first council meeting by councillors from among themselves.

Incumbents Julia Shortreed and Jennifer Dailloux were earlier acclaimed to their seats to represent Wards 1 and 3 respectively.

The other Algonquin Hills race on the night was among four hopefuls vying for two seats to stand for the township's Ward 2. Sabrina Richards earned 930 votes and incumbent Lisa Barry got 798 votes to each win a seat.

To round out the contest for Ward 2, Napier Simpson fell short with 561 votes and Amber Meirik got 454 ballots marked in her favour.

Danielsen is grateful for the residents who placed their trust in her and she's looking forward to the new term "doing all kinds of good things," she said."I'm extremely grateful to the people who supported me and helped me get elected."

see AFTER page 2

## MH mayor hopes to rally new council against housing problems

by JAMES MATTHEWS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Voters in Minden Hills have assembled a contingent of councillors that will work well with those acclaimed to positions.

Bob Carter represented Ward 1 in the last term. He was acclaimed mayor in August, along with Deputy Mayor Lisa Schell. The other candidate to have been acclaimed to council was Bob Sisson who is Ward 3 councillor.

In the municipal election on Oct. 24, Tammy McKelvey emerged victorious in the race with Trevor Chaulk for the councillorat-large job. She earned 1,843 votes to best Chaulk and the 1,032 ballots in his favour.

Ivan Ingram will replace Carter as Ward 1 councillor after he secured 1,238 votes. Shirley Johannessen won the other Ward 1 councillor seat with 736 votes. That ward has two representatives because of its geographic

The other candidates for Ward 1 who fell short were Mike Grozelle, who garnered 707 votes, and Richard Bradley, who managed

Incumbent Pam Sayne beat Stephen Hertel for the title of Ward 2 councillor. Sayne tallied 529 ballots to Hertel's 263 votes.

Schell, starting her third consecutive term, said the new council is comprised of a good mix of knowledge, experience, and

see POLITICAL page 2





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#### **Giving back**

The members of the Haliburton Highlands Time Travellers came together to showcase the \$1,101 they will donate to the Auxiliaries of the Haliburton and Minden hospitals. This total is the most the car enthusiast club have been able to collect raised from events held this past year and it was done through the generosity of their sponsors, spectators, participants and members. In the spring, the group will have its meet-up schedule available through sponsors. / Submitted by Cheryl Parsons



## After orientation AH council will discuss priorities

#### from page 1

She was quick to congratulate the other candidates in the political contest.

For the most part, the Algonquin Highlands council will look the same, except for Richards' new voice at the table.

"I think she'll be a good addition to the group," Danielsen said. "I'm looking forward to getting started."

Council will have an orientation over the next few weeks and then they'll meet to discuss what possible priorities they'll set their teeth into.

"We'll talk about our goals and priorities and projects that staff have got scheduled based on our asset management plan," Danielsen said. "We need to talk about what we see as our top priorities."

Whatever those priorities come to be, they'll be balanced against the municipal purse during discussions to ink the 2023 budget

"We don't want to have any great increases in taxation," she said. "So we have to be really careful. I think we'll have to wait and see what council as a whole decides their priorities are."

For her part, Richards has an idea of one item she'd like to see on council's to-do list: Work toward addressing the dearth of housing.

During the campaign, Richards said she had been a cottager her whole life on Little Hawk Lake until she and her husband bought a marina and moved permanently to Algonquin Highlands in 2019.

The biggest plank in her campaign platform was housing. She said it's the town's and, indeed, the county's most substantial issue and a cause for other sore spots that torment the region.

While on the hustings, she'd said businesses have been forced to close temporarily because of staffing issues. Others had to delay projects to accommodate staffing shortages. And it all goes back to people having a place to hang their hats and lay their heads.

"We have to tackle housing right away," Richards said. "We need to look at housing in general.

"Not really talking about affordable housing. I'm talking about housing for our workers because our businesses are tired. They're stressed. We need to have housing for them to be able to have workers to work for them."

A neophyte to municipal politics, Richards said it feels quite shocking to have won. She singled out Meirik's performance on the campaign trail and Meirik's loss as a reason for her own shock at having won.

"I was surprised at the high percentage of votes for me," Richards said. "I knew I had a good chance. I just thought it



We don't want to have any great increases in taxation ... So we have to be really careful. I think we'll have to wait and see what council as a whole decides their priorities are.

— AH MAYOR LIZ DANIELSEN



would've been a lot tighter.

"I'm surprised that it wasn't as tight as I thought it was going to be."

## Political experience enables MH to hit the ground running

#### from page 1

personalities.

"Having a couple members of council who have a lot of municipal experience, I think we'll be able to hit the ground running," she said. "There'll be less of a learning curve for them and I think we'll be able to get to work on things quickly."

Carter said there're many challenges ahead for the new council, but he's looking forward to getting to work on them.

"I know that housing is a huge issue and it's something that I've been working on for the last number of years," he said. "And it is our biggest challenge.

"Pretty much all types of housing is needed right now. We have a shortage of complete range, except probably for very expensive cottages along the lakes."

Both Schell and Carter agree that the lack of housing is at the root of other issues for the municipality.

"It's affecting us in many ways," Carter said. "It's affecting the homelessness rate. It's affecting the ability of people coming here to work. And it's probably the biggest challenge we have in the county."

He said it's a hurdle that's shared by municipalities throughout the province.

"But it is specifically a large problem for us here in Haliburton County and in Minden Hills," he said.

He's worked on the housing issue through a number of angles. Carter was chairperson of a township housing task force. He's a director on the boards of the Kawartha Lakes Haliburton Housing Corporation and Habitat for Humanity.

The mayor's office may open a new avenue for him to work to create roofs people can put over their heads.

"To a certain extent, yes," he said. "It's a hugely complex issue."

The main problem, he said, is of economics.

Interest rates on money borrowed from banks have been on the rise. The costs of building materials have gone up for a variety of reasons often associated with the pandemic and subsequent supply chain issues.

And the cost of skilled labour has increased.

"So the total cost to build something these days gets it to the point where you cannot service the total amount of money you had to borrow with rents," he said.

If it cost \$350 per square foot to build something, you're not going to be able to pay for it at an average monthly rent of about \$1,600.

"You just can't afford to pay off the interest, capital, the running costs, and so on with that amount of money," Carter said. "So it's very difficult to build anything. That's true right across the province."

You're paying off some of the capital, a lot of the interest, but then there's taxes, heating, energy costs, and maintenance.

"All those things get to be more than what you can charge in rent," he said. "Especially at the low end of rentals, it's very difficult to make a project break even or be able to survive."

Schell said being able to afford to buy a home isn't even on the horizon for most young people today. Long gone are the days where one could graduate from college, get a job, and then easily take the next step and buy a home.

"It's not an option," she said.

In Schell's estimation, one of the first tasks for the new council is to fill some vacancies among senior positions at town hall. But there needs to be places for those people to live

"That's an ongoing thing, and it's not just us," she said. "It's across the province and the whole country, really. There are some senior positions that we need to get filled. And there's the usual things. There's housing, roads. So much stuff."

She sees difficult times borne of tough decisions ahead for all municipalities across Ontario.

"People who run and say, 'I'm going to get all the roads fixed in the municipality and we're not going to raise taxes.' Those days are over," Schell said. "There's no money trickling down from the province or the feds like it used to.

"Small municipalities like ours are going to be on the hook for the full cost of anything that will and needs to be done."

## Respiratory viruses converging, says region's top doctor

by JAMES MATTHEWS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The healthcare system continues to be quite strained and we need to do everything we can to try to preserve it.

That's the message Dr. Nicole Bocking, the medical officer of health for the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit, delivered to the unit's board when it met on Oct. 20.

"When we ask people to take preventative measures now in an attempt to relieve pressure on our healthcare system, this is not just because of COVID," Bocking said. "This is because of many different respiratory viruses, all converging at a similar time.

The region has gotten its first confirmed influenza case and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) is bringing people to the hospitals, she said. There's also the shortage of human health resources to staff hospitals.

"All of this will continue to put pressure on our healthcare system, which is already quite strained," she said.

The BA.5 COVID-19 subvariant has born many children, said Bocking.

"And those children continue to mutate also, so we have multiple different lineages and sub-lineages that are continuing to emerge.'

Some of those sub-lineages tend to disappear. But there are others that are shown to be more transmissible.

"And they continue to develop and mutate and transmit even easier," she said.

Some of the things healthcare providers then need to consider is whether re-infection can occur and if vaccines will work on the newer, more transmissible variants.

Test positivity and the number of outbreaks continue to be higher, despite the coronavirus' seventh wave having peaked in August.

She said there are a dozen ongoing outbreaks in the region.

"The majority of those are in long-term care homes," she said. "Though we are starting to see some more outbreaks in hospital settings as well. We are continuing to see new hospital admissions directly as a result of COVID-19 infection."

Test positivity in the last two weeks has increased "significantly," she said. And she wagered that can be attributed to continued long-term care outbreaks. But then wastewater surveillance has indicated low for the district's three areas.

"As the pandemic continues to evolve, as variants evolve, and our technology and tools evolve, we continue to evaluate and need to look at multiple pieces of the puzzle," Bocking said. "There's not just one

Two sub-variants that are in line to be particularly troublesome are BO 1.1 and the BA 2.75.2 strains.

The BQ 1.1 sub-variant seems likely to emerge as the dominant one in the coming months, Bocking said.

"The piece of the pie that it's taking up is slowly becoming bigger in the United States," she said. "What we watch for is not the fact that it's becoming bigger. It's the pace at which it's becoming a bigger slice of the pie."

It's more infectious: That variant is almost doubling week over week, she said.

Getting vaccines and staying up to date with booster doses will go toward helping lessen the strain on the healthcare system, she said.

#### Respiratory ailments tracked through Dashboard

Andrew Harris, an epidemiologist at the health unit, described the Respiratory Diseases Dashboard, which was launched in September. The dashboard combines the regional health unit's COVID-19 reporting, influenza surveillance, and data from the acute care enhanced surveillance system.

Basically, it categorizes such information as test positivity diagnosis, hospital admissions, age groups and municipalities, and admissions to the intensive care unit because of respiratory ailments.

"Over the course of the respiratory season starting the week of Sept. 1, we have seen 1,756 emergency department visits for influenza-like illness or respiratory syndromes," Harris said.

"To date, 11.75 per cent of all emergency department visits for our catchment area have been related to influenza-like illness or respiratory syndromes."

He said the unit sees five to 10 weekly hospitalizations for COVID-19.

Work continues on Strategic Plan

An update on the strategic plan was given in May, Bocking said. But that was a quick synopsis of the 2019-2023 strategic plan.

"It had really just kicked off and then the pandemic hit," Bocking said. "The strategic plan for many different, important reasons stalled during the COVID-19 pandemic."

They got back to reviewing the plan as things related to the coronavirus began to settle somewhat. The need for such a plan continued to be relevant, she said.

"The pandemic was able to highlight a number of ways that we were excelling in the priorities that we had put forward," she said.

The strategic plan outlines the health unit's priorities and objectives.

Given the years missing due to the pandemic, Bocking said they planned to ask the board of directors for an extension.



#### **Blue moves**

Dance artist Madeline Friel performs Clear set to Leonard Cohen's song Famous Blue Raincoat at the Dance Rx3 Re-emergence, Re-engagement and Reconnection event on Saturday, Oct. 22 at the great hall in the Haliburton School of Art + Design.The event was presented by DH3 (Dance Happens Here Haliburton) and included the screening of the short film, Dance Rx3: Re-emergence, Re-Engagement, Re-connection by Brad Brown of Upside **Brown Production Services,** live performances and a panel discussion with the dance artists. /DARREN LUM Staff

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#### Halloween Fire Safety Message

A MESSAGE FROM THE

When choosing a costume, stay away from long trailing fabric. If your child is wearing a mask, make sure the eye holes are large enough to

- · Provide children with flashlights to carry for lighting or glow sticks as part of their costume.
- Dried flowers, cornstalks and crepe paper catch fire easily. Keep all decorations away from open flames and other heat sources
- Use a battery-operated candle or glow-stick in jack-o-lanterns. If you use a real candle, use extreme caution.
- Remember to keep exits clear of decorations, do not block escape

### **HALLOWEEN RECYCLING TIPS**

Reminder that chocolate bar wrappers, candy wrappers and chip bags are all not recyclable. Please ensure these are disposed of in your garbage.

## **SANTA CLAUS PARADE**

The Minden Santa Claus parade is taking place on Saturday, November 19, starting at 11 am in the Arena parking lot. The parade follows Parkside Street continues south on Bobcaygeon Road, finishing at the Township municipal parking lot off of St. Germain Street. Floats are still needed for the parade! Contact Tanya at 705-286-1260 x 551 or tbudgen@mindenhills.ca if you would like to participate.

#### **CHRISTMAS IN THE VILLAGE**

Christmas in the Village at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre is being held on Saturday, November 19 from 11 am – 3 pm. Bring your Christmas list and visit with Santa after the parade! Tour the heritage village decorated for Christmas, explore the Artisan Market featuring local artists, try some tasty baked goods and visit the old-fashioned candy shop. Admission is by donation. For more information call 705-286-3763 x 542 or email culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca.

### **FAMILY HALLOWEEN PARTY**

Save the date! Join us on Friday October 28 in the Minden Hills Community Centre from 7-9p for our annual Family Halloween Party! Entrance by donation. Lots of dancing, games, prizes and more. For more information, please email kmcalpine@mindenhills.ca

## MINDEN HILLS CULTURAL **CENTRE**

The Muse, Under the Thin Blue Line, a new exhibit by Bob Tunnoch will be on display November 1 - December 20 in the Agnes Jamieson Gallery at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre. Meet the artist at the opening reception on November 5 from 1-3 pm. The gallery is open Tuesday – Saturday from 10 am – 4 pm. Admission is by donation. For more information call 705-286-3763 x 542 or email culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca.

## HCDC satisfied with past year's achievements

by VIVIAN COLLINGS

Times Staff

The Haliburton County Development Corporation (HCDC) has reason to be happy after meeting the goals of assisting local organizations and creating jobs to successfully give our community a boost, even through tough pandemic circumstances.

HCDC assisted 69 businesses in the past year which created or maintained 253 jobs.

"Receiving the most funding of any CFDC in Southern Ontario, HCDC continues to be the most active lender of the 61 CFDCs in the province of Ontario. This past year, we disbursed over \$3.1 million in loans, claiming the largest investment fund valued at \$21.3 million of the 267 Community Futures Development Corporations in Canada," said HCDC's chair Patrick Kennedy in his opening remarks at the annual general meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 4 at the Red Umbrella Inn in Minden.

He said HCDC staff responded to significant increases in service volumes in the past year.

They also provided business counseling to 118 individuals and provided 128 referrals to outside agencies.

HCDC's mission is to "support economic development and encourage the development, implementation, and sustainability of initiatives that contribute to job creation, a resilient, vibrant community, and a healthy natural environment."

In their community economic development sector, they assisted six organizations and involved 22 community partners and 105 volunteers.

"That leveraged \$165,000 in the community through those strategic planning efforts," said HCDC program and operations coordinator Heather Reid.

Their Local Initiatives Program supported 25 local notfor-profit projects by dispersing \$86,500.

"HCDC is mandated by the federal government to provide loans to businesses, create jobs, business services, community strategic planning, and support community economic activities," said executive director of HCDC Patti Tallman.

She said the government provides HCDC with an annual budget, and with that, they are able to carry out their lending activities, business services, workshops, and community economic development activities.

Tallman spoke about their business services. She explained they do much more than simply provide loans. "We not only provide loans to businesses, we provide free business counseling and deliver a range of activities through business counseling, entrepreneurial advice, cash flow forecasting, information services to businesses, social enterprises, not-for-profit organizations, and advice to anyone thinking of starting a business or not-for-profit organization," Tallman said.

She said their investment fund is self-sustaining while earning interest over the past 37 years.

"These dollars are only used for the intended purposes of lending to businesses in Haliburton County."

Reid addressed HCDC's Community Economic Development Sector.

"This is really about finding not-for-profits and individuals with great ideas and helping them come to fruition. We



Haliburton County Development Corporation's annual general meeting was held at Red Umbrella Inn in Minden on Oct. 4. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff

do that through assisting organizations with strategic planning, organizational development," she said.

They were able to help a not-for-profit business get their start this year.

Their Local Initiatives Program (LIP) is one of the biggest projects taken on by the Community Economic Development committee.

"Every year, we take our investment fund transfer, and we move that into community economic development, so we provide not-for-profits [through the LIP]," Reid said.

In the spring and summer of 2022, HCDC's Business Incubator space had 41 meeting room bookings and 52 hot desk bookings.

The recently refreshed Business Incubator provides "affordable office space, broadband, mentoring, a meeting room, common room, and a co-working space," Reid said.

Peter Smith and Dale Bull resigned from HCDC's board of directors with Mark Bell and Tammy Rea taking their place.

Kennedy thanked both staff and the board for their efforts to make this year successful.

"I want to acknowledge our staff's hard work, once again rising to the challenges in a professional, efficient manner. A great team needs a great leader who can keep a positive atmosphere in the workplace during busy, often chaotic and stressful times, and we have such a leader in our executive director Patti Tallman. On behalf of the entire board, thank you Patti and our awesome staff team very much for all your efforts."



Heather Reid, program and operations coordinator at Haliburton County Development Corporation, spoke about the success of the organization's Community Economic Development sector.





HHSS Interact students wrote out their ideas for service projects for the year at Kinark Outdoor Centre.

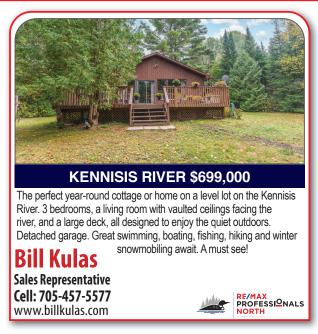
#### **Taking aim at development**

Haliburton Highlands Secondary School Interact students tried their hand at archery at Kinark Outdoor Centre for their "Interact Day," a day to plan their service initiatives and practice team building activities on Monday, Oct. 24. /Photos submitted by Christine Carr





**HHSS Interact students** completed team building activites.











### **INOTHER**WORDS

Columns and Letters to the Editor

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# A step to a bright new day

HERE'S A LOT to unpack in about a 600 word editorial to say goodbye.

But after almost a year of these, it's something I've been told I'm good at, so here goes.

Thank you. Two words, which on their own do little, but said with feeling and with heart they are weighted with value that satiates the soul. I'm not one for small talk and I believe my editorials have mirrored that. I want to believe gratitude is important and to express it to others is even more important. I didn't always, but with my departure I want everyone to know my success and my efforts are owed to all of you.

Nothing I've done in journalism would have been possible without the connections I made. I appreciate the opportunities to share the many stories of the people that call the Highlands home. I will always remember how people let me in their homes, their lives and their hearts.



**DARREN LUM** Editor

I heard somewhere that a journey is taken by yourself and an adventure is a trip you shared.

What an adventure it has been.

There has been the thousands of sporting events with all ages and levels of athletic abilities represented, whether it was children barely able to skate to athletes from around the world kayaking at the Minden Whitewater Preserve in the Pan Am Games. There has been the 100-year-old birthday stories. The first babies of the year. The regattas where eggs were tossed, and laughter was contagious. The fundraisers for every cause and need imaginable, which are only possible by the tireless and dedicated volunteers who bleed and sweat for this community. The inspirational stories of athletes, artists, business people and survivors, who reminded me what courage people can possess to endure tragedy.

I heard something through Instagram about how dreams never leave you, and you either live it out or are haunted by it. Your dreams, you either pursue them or they f-ing haunt you.

Being in my 40s, I don't want anything haunting me.

I'm not young, but not old.

So, it's on to a new chapter. We are all directors of our own life story and (while some have more privilege than others) we can take steps to be intentional with actions for growth and for joy.

It's more than 20 years since I started in journalism and a lot has changed in the industry and in life – smart phones,

> wow. I can choose to accept these changes or do what I intend to do, which is strike a new path to a bright horizon where there is opportunity for growth and to take path to fulfill new dreams yet to be realized.

> If anyone has ever received a message from me through my work email address, my signature at the bottom says: "Since life is short and the

world is wide, the sooner you start exploring it, the better."

It's a quote from Simon Raven. I think it's time to live out the signature.

Today is my last day. The last at the Times and the last (most likely) in journalism.

I've done all I can in journalism. My life has been fuelled by passion and I'm ready to take it to something new where I can feel the spark, which will burn and

If you're interested to see where my nose will take me, follow me at hello\_ haliburton on Instagram. If not, I'll be in the Highlands still and at the end of the road or trail not typically taken, staring at the sky, inhaling life.

It's been a trip and I appreciated all the moments. Take care, be kind to others, but, most importantly, be kind to



The Ghost of Covid Past

# Brush with greatness

F YOU OWN a hunting dog, you need to learn many lessons - mostly Labout patience. You also need to learn about burrs, stickers, and hitch hikers, because you will be brushing every one of those out of your dog's coat after every hunt.

Your typical bird dog tends to be a magnet for these things, and by the end of most hunts will likely double his or her weight in clingy vegetation alone. After my last hunt, I could only recognize Rosie by the way she hesitated when I told her it was time to go home.

Burrs, of course, are something we are all familiar with. They are also the hardest thing to comb out of hairy ears. And they are not easy to remove from your dog either. Stickers are things like twigs from raspberry and blackberry canes and tiny barbed seeds. These typically stick to a dog's coat and work their way in, so if a raspberry

plant grows from your dog one day, don't be too surprised. They also tend to be easy to remove, but hard to dislodge from your fingers. Hitch hikers are all the other little

The point is you are going to be doing a of of brushing if you bunt with a dog that is pursuing birds. Because for some reason grouse and woodcock live in places where all these things abound. I think it is because they enjoy seeing foxes get stuck.

Dogs are generally OK with this and given their druthers would just rather wear the burrs, hitch hikers and stickers as a reminder of the last hunt. Spouses, on the other hand, are not OK with this because they would rather not have all these things

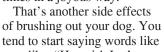
on their furniture.

Also, most dogs do not, as a rule, enjoy having things brushed out of their hair. Mostly because they are curious as to what they would look like as one big mat.

But they do get used to it. My own pup Rosie now considers being brushed as payment for a day out chasing birds. Also, she understands she is just plain lucky that she still has enough hair to brush, as some people near and dear to her have not had that privilege for years.

This is why, as soon as we get home, Rosie sits on her bed and I brush her out

until all the burrs, hitch hikers and stickers are gone. Typically, before I do this, I ask her what look she's going for today. Then I point to all the photos of famous dogs on the walls. And somewhere during the brushing I will yell out the word "fabulous" several times in a joyous way.



that and phrases like, "Hey girl. Let's

Unfortunately, when you say the word dish to a dog, they run off and get it and expect you to fill it with food. Which is a whole other conversation. In any case, by the time it is over, you will have gossiped on about everything that is going on in town. Maybe I carry things too far, but I also like to use a mirror to show Rosie my work from every angle. And expect a tip.

If you have done things right, you will have a dog that is brushed out and beautiful once again.

Until next hunt, that is. Hey, they don't call them burred dogs for nothing.



**STEVE GALEA** Beyond 35

#### **INOTHER**WORDS

Columns and Letters to the Editor

## The splendour of the woods

THE LIGHTS DIM. The audience turns to other spectacles. Nature's annual autumn show is over. It was a spectacular one. Certainly one of the most vibrant in years. Crimson and golden hillsides seemingly competing to take our breath away.

There are many theories on why the autumn leaves were so dazzling this year. People cite drought, followed by ample early autumn rain. Others say low night temperatures, but without frost, are responsible.

Weather factors such as temperature and moisture do influence leaf change, but research tells us the most important influence by far is the calendar. Shorter

hours of daylight and longer dark and cool nights set off biochemical processes that cause leaves to change.

No one really knows everything about why trees act the way they do each autumn. Not even the scientists who study these things.

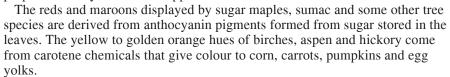
We do know what causes trees to abandon their healthy green foliage. In spring and summer trees produce green chlorophyll to help them convert light into chemical energy that results in sugars and starches. This is all part of a food production process known as photosynthesis.

In the fall, green chlorophyll production slows, allowing reddish-orange carotenoid pigments and red to

purplish anthocyanin tints to appear.

JIM POLING SR.

From Shaman's Rock



But we know nothing about the reason why trees change their colour. What are they trying to achieve?

"This is both surprising and puzzling, since Nature seldom wastes energy to no purpose," writes James Poling (no relation), author of Leaves: Their Amazing Lives and Strange Behavior. "Yet as far as botanists can determine, the chemical energy that goes into the painting of a leaf is of no benefit at all to the plant. The colors seem merely to herald the end of a leaf's life cycle."

There are some theories about why trees change their leaves, but none scientifically proven.

One is that the change in leaf colour is a warning to insects such as aphids who want to burrow in trees for winter. If leaf colours indicate chemical defences are present, then insects will avoid the tree.

Then there is the theory of photoprotection in which anthocyanins protect the leaf against the harmful effects of light at low temperatures. Supposedly this allows the leaf to live a bit longer.

Then of course there is a longstanding belief that trying to maintain photosynthesis during the low light, cold, high winds and snow of winter is just not worth the effort for trees. So they decide to take a winter break and drop their

Or, crazy as it sounds, are the trees doing it for us?

Studies show that fall colours can lift our moods. Some psychiatrists advise patients that a walk or drive through the autumn woods is therapeutic.

The contrasting colours of autumn leaves stimulate the mind. They are an exciting transformation after months of seeing just the bright greens of spring and

Autumn colours signal the brain that change is happening. And, change can be exciting, even inspiring us to do different things – like taking up a new hobby or setting goals.

They are a reminder that change must happen before new things can begin. And, of course, a reminder that nothing lasts forever.

All said, I suppose it doesn't matter that we know what purpose a tree has in changing the colour of its leaves. Time spent trying to figure that out probably is better spent just relaxing by taking in the fall spectacle.

Watching the leaves turn is a great reminder of how lucky we are to have four seasons and the beauty and differences that each brings.

Autumn, despite its signals of harder times ahead, is for many folks the absolute best of the seasons.

I like the way autumn is described by Winnie the Pooh, author A. A. Milne's fictional teddy bear.

Autumn, says Winnie, is "a time of hot chocolatey mornings, and toasty marshmallow evenings, and, best of all, leaping into leaves!"



#### Fun-qi discovery

Mushrooms in the woods of Minden seen while working in the bush. /Submitted by **Guenter Horst** 

letters to the editor

## Local hotel, resort owners won battle to keep hot tubs open

The Ministry of Health has announced today, "Regulation 565: Public Pools under the Health Protection and Promotion Act was amended to exempt, from the regulation, public spas (hot tubs) that are operated in conjunction with an individual dwelling unit or suite of a hotel for the exclusive use of its occupants if the required signage is posted."

Earlier this year, the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce received a call from a local operator who had their hot tubs ordered to be closed due to Regulation 565. As part of its mandate to support Haliburton County businesses, the chamber of commerce took a leading role in advocating for the needs of its affected members. Chamber executive director Bob Gaudette collaborated with stakeholders to solve a problem that was seriously affecting several local hospitality providers.

"We are forever grateful for the Chamber of Commerce's involvement with the hot tub Issue. Our initial meeting with Bob was so very productive. We can't thank the Chamber enough for all the hard work and efforts in providing advocacy and supporting small businesses like ours! The exceptional organizational skills and the interactions with all of the many organizations and tourism partners proved to be a huge success! Thank you, Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce for all that you do for businesses!

We are proud members!" per Lakeview Motel and Resort.

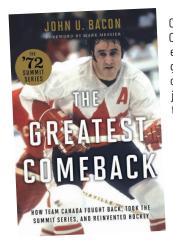
An interpretation of the regulations (unique to the local health unit) was forcing the closure of individual unit use spas for non-compliance with regulations. The interpretation identified these hot tubs as public spas requiring costly and unreasonable modifications to the spa area and equipment in order to resume operation. The negative impacts to these local operators were very significant; a disadvantaged ability to compete against neighbouring competitors (not subject to the same interpretation) as well as the loss of spa related income.

The chamber would like to thank all parties who supported this advocacy issue including the Ministry of Health, MPP Laurie Scott of Haliburton - Kawartha Lakes - Brock riding, Haliburton County Tourism, the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit, T.I.A.O (Tourism Industry Association of Ontario) and Haliburton County Council amongst others.

Gaudette said, "This matter was handled in an expedited manner with an outcome that creates greater clarity in interpretation and provides improvements in the regulation of spas that are operated in conjunction with an individual dwelling unit or suite of a hotel. I'm pleased the Chamber was able to play a role in this outcome."

> Sincerely, Robert Gaudette, **Executive Director** Haliburton Highlands Chamber of

#### HCPL's Book of the Week



The Summit Series took place in September 1972, when Cold War tensions could not have been higher. Team Canada was expected to crush their untried opponents eight games to zero, with backups playing the last four games. But five games into the series, they had mustered only one win against a tie and three stunning losses. With just three games left, Team Canada would have to win all three games in Moscow to take the series.

And they did.

The Greatest Comeback is a universal story about overcoming bitter feuds to forge a hard-earned team spirit and inspire heroics against long odds and almost inhuman pressure - an experience so unforgettable that every member of Team Canada considers those eight games to be the highlight of their storied careers. Available to borrow at the Haliburton County Public Library.

## Canoe FM invites music lovers to recording studio

Community radio station hoping this initiative will set the spark

by DARREN LUM

Times Staff

Talk to anyone from the Highlands who has produced an album recently and they will tell you about travelling to studios outside Haliburton County such as Peterborough.

That's all changed now with Canoe FM's studio project to start a professional recording studio here, which will be open

Valued at close to \$30,000, the studio's professional grade equipment was purchased with help from professionals in the area, and with funds raised from the community's support of the station through playing Canoe FM bingo. The studio will also have the expertise of a fulltime employee thanks to a Community Radio Fund of Canada grant worth \$35,000.

Canoe FM board chair Paul Vorvis said recordings can be by anyone that loves music.

"It doesn't even have to be [related to a] musical career. It could just be people who have an itch that they want to scratch. They want to produce their music and record their music and want to play it on the air, but there will be a little bit of a screening process. It'll be very mild screening process," he said.

Less than a week ago, the Haliburton-based station that serves the entire county hosted its first recording when performers came to record a script for a radio play, which will be broadcasted by Canoe FM.

This start is the beginning and will be part of the momentum the station wants to create for residents with a passion to have their voice recorded in any capacity through this initiative.

Vorvis said from inception it was a year-and-a-half process to start everything.

He said the idea came out of the station's mission, which is to feature and promote local musicians.

"We have a lot of talented musicians in the county, but unfortunately a lot stuff they have recorded is not up to the quality that really and truly reflects their talent," he said. "It's maybe done in basement studios and on computers and all that type of stuff."

Vorvis, who was on the station's music committee at time, saw a need.

He submitted a business plan, which included converting the Malcolm McLean Radio Hall to a professional recording

This plan, he added, includes the idea that it would operate

"We would attract youth and other musicians, and other community groups, not just musicians. It could be choirs, or church groups and we have them come in and come into Canoe FM and be able to record their music, and then we could distribute it through the NCRA (National Campus and Community Radio Association), nationally. He adds this could provide the necessary help to promote musicians, which could serve as a big step in their career.

Hiring new production employee Marcus Thompson in September was important since current station engineer, Ron Murphy just didn't have the time.

"Ron has a lot of expertise, but he doesn't have the time to do this, so we thought we could hire somebody who could



Canoe FM's newest employee Marcus Thompson is inviting people to contact him about recording sessions at the Haliburton-based station, which added a recording studio. Thompson, who's parents live in Haliburton, is a graduate of Humber College's music program and is a jazz trumpet player. /SUBMITTED by Paul Vorvis

just be dedicated to this project," he said.

Thompason is a graduate of Humber College's music program. He is a jazz and trumpet player, and has parents with a musical background, as teachers and musicians. They live

Applicants for the position came from Ontario, but also as far away as New Brunswick and Montreal.

The position not only includes the operations of the studio, but also marketing the studio and training volunteers to ensure there are people to take over once the contract is over in a year. That station's emphasis is on building "momentum" to ensure the community embraces the opportunity.

Vorvis said, "There is a buzz out there. We just don't know how it's going to translate just yet, but we're optimistic."

The marketing efforts will include high school students to

ensure there are youth aware of the opportunity.

Anyone interested in recording need to contact Thompson at Canoe FM. He will schedule sessions, which will be preceded with a pre-production meeting to determine goals. As of now, there is not any particular criteria.

"We want to keep it open enough. We don't want to discourage anybody at this point. We're actually doing this – at least the first six months and then reassess – but it will be on a no fee basis. And then once we get it going and build some credibility we'll take a look at that and decide. We're not going to use [the studio] as a profit generating centre. We may go into a cost recovery mode. For the first six months we're just happy to record some stuff and get the project moving," Vorvis said.



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#### **Storm tame bears**

Highland Storm Sharp Electric U15 LL player Braxton Cooper watches his shot slide past South Muskoka Bears goalie, but wide of the net during the third period of minor hockey action on Sunday, Oct. 23 at the A.J. LaRue Arena in Haliburton. Haiden Bird scored four goals to lead all players while teammates Nathan Guild scored two, and one each for Ethan Rowe, Brady Hamilton, Logan Reid and Erik Bird. The shutout was earned by Storm goalie Taylor Consack. /DARREN LUM Staff



A Highland Storm Sharp Electric U15 LL player Erik Bird wins the battle for a loose puck against a Simcoe Muskoka Bears defender.



Highland Storm Sharp Electric U15 LL player Ethan Rowe rushes past a Simcoe Muskoka Bears defender during minor hockey action.

## Making strides to running dreams

17-year-old's 100 mile attempt is step towards success

by DARREN LUM

Editor

Nick Phippen is one teenager with an undeniable desire to run down a dream.

At 17, he was the youngest runner taking on the 100 mile signature race at this year's Haliburton Forest Ultra held several weeks

Phippen said he believed he could run the 100 mile distance, which would demand close to 24 hours of endurance.

"I thought I could do it. I thought I'd try it and, I mean, it was a lot harder than I thought it was, but it was worth a shot and I'd definitely do it again," he said.

One of the top runners in the field of the race told him to give it a few years of training and races before he makes another attempt.

His ambitious goal was upended a little past 6 p.m. when he had run 12 hours and close to 45 miles into his attempt during a descent on a single-track area between checkpoints two and one (checkpoints were in reverse sequence) that left him with a badly twisted ankle, which resulted in being slightly hampered about three weeks after he competed.

"It was just one of those weird rocks that I happen to step on and I just rolled it. I heard the crack and I was like, oh, man. That hurt,"

The injury left him limping to checkpoint

"I tried to run it off, but it was pretty bad. I didn't want to make it a lot worse than what it was," he said.



Red Hawks alumnus Nick Phippen smiles during the 100 mile race at the Haliburton Forest Ultra event held several weeks ago. Phippen, a teenager who didn't finish the race because of an ankle injury said he has plans to focus on maturina and develop as a runner and return in a few years to make another attempt. /DARREN LUM Staff

He ended his attempt because he had concerns about permanent damage and how that could affect his running dreams.

The most difficult aspect to tackling this distance is the recognition of the time it takes. At 24 hours of running time, the Haliburton Highlands Secondary School alumnus said this distance is much more of a mental challenge than a physical one.

For all the ups and downs runners face figuratively and literally, the greatest challenge is battling the negative thoughts. Phippen said one negative thought can fester.

"A lot of it was just like in your head to keep going and keep running. It was hard to wrap my head around the fact that I had to run 24 hours. Like it was kind of crazy to think about once I started doing it. Your body goes numb after a certain point. You kind of just can't really feel your legs and they're just there. It's a lot of in your head, like just gotta keep moving. Just keep moving," he said, referring to the self talk that happens.

He's thankful to all his supporters, which included his parents who provided food and other necessities, to friends, past coaches, and volunteers and other runners at the race.

It was a huge leap from his previous high of 50 kilometres, which he ran the year before at the same Haliburton Forest race. Last year, he ran the 50 kilometres in six hours and four minutes and 13 seconds and finished 11th overall.

His next course of action is to head out

West this autumn to the mountains of British Columbia where he plans to compete and train in the hopes of one day making the national team. Part of his plan is to run a few 50 mile races, 50 kilometre races and marathons. He said he's focused on taking small steps for now, but his dream is to represent Canada at the Olympics. For now, he's looking at developing and is excited for what's next. As far as another 100 mile race goes, he said at his age he will take a few years off so he can be fully prepared for another attempt.

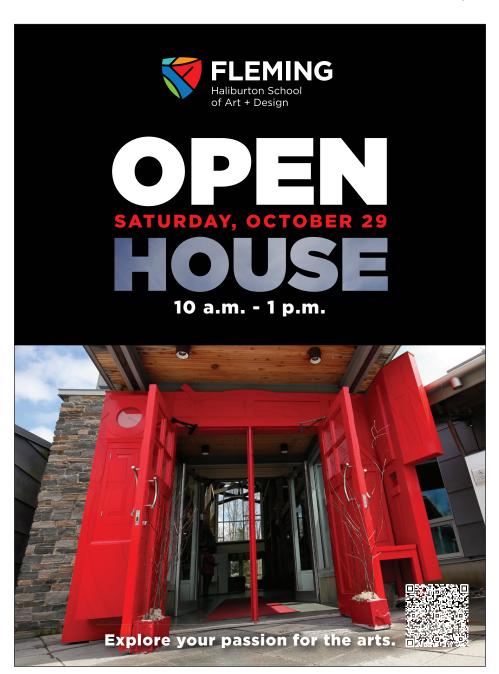
There's something special about running for Phippen that doesn't compare to other sports (though running provides excellent conditioning benefits).

Getting to run in Haliburton County offers inspiration in addition to the enjoyment of the activity.

"It's just a beautiful place to run through. It's peaceful. It's quiet. It's no one but you and nature and it's just great to experience,"

Taking on a 100-mile race is all about the passion for running he has, but his advice for other young people on taking on any challenge is related to love and never giving up.

"If you're being told to do it, you're not gonna like it. So you definitely got to love it. But you got to try new things too. Not everything's going to be easy, but if you don't quit, you can do it. The best advice I can give is just to challenge yourself and have fun with it," he said. "We're young. I've got 30 to 40 more years of running, hopefully. That's a lot of time for running and learning so you got to enjoy it and not quit now, right?





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The Red Hawks field hockey team player Gracie Griffith stickhandles, looking to beat her defender.

#### Stickhandling to success

The Red Hawks field hockey team player Ava Allaire works the ball to beat her defender during practice on Wednesday, Oct. 19 at the Gary G. Brohman Athletic Field in Haliburton. /DARREN LUM Staff





## Pandemic experience central to debut album inspired by grunge

North of Seven's band steeped in the Highlands

#### by DARREN LUM

Editor

Passion and heart is central to the 10-track debut album, ... *Just sit down* by North of Seven

Comprising of three Haliburton Highlands Secondary School alumnus, Eric Casper, Earl Johnson and Kyle Aggett, the band is excited about their debut album.

Two of the three band's members Casper and Johnson live in the Highlands, and Aggett may live in Peterborough, but his heart and roots are in the Highlands.

The album's songs include a few written years before and the rest are specific for the album. The production took three days to complete, including 40 hours of work in the studio.

Among the 10 songs on the album, it's 78 Days (featuring Samara Johnson) that stands out for Casper.

"It's the best thing I've written with guitar. And I think the meaning of the song – bringing attention to the Oka Crisis that people don't forget history," Casper said.

The Oka Crisis, also known as the Kanesatake Resistance or the Mohawk Resistance at Kanesatake was a 78-day standoff (from July 11 to Sept. 25 in 1990) between Mohawk protestors, Quebec polic, the RCMP and the Canadian Army. This standoff was the result of a proposed expansion of a golf course and the development of townhouses on disputed land in Kanesatake that included a Mohawk burial ground.

Casper adds despite this track being produced in the studio it was completed with the least amount of effort. Hearing the song, Casper's singing, drips with emotion, particularly during the chorus and conjures up hits in the 1990s such as by Canadian folk icon, Bruce Cockburn. Another track, Face of Stone has a rhythm and the accompanying lyrics, prompting one to sing along with and tap your foot to.

Casper characterizes the band as rock alternative, with influence from the grunge rock bands of the 1990s he and Johnson grew up listening to as teens. Johnson provides background vocals and plays guitar. Although Aggett is a 2002 graduate and his bandmates are gradautes from the early 1990s, they all share a love of music and appreciation for the power of music, which was conveyed in this artistic collaboration.

Johnson said the album was led by Casper's initiative.

They started with a few of Casper's songs, Johnson's songs and then collaborated for new songs. Half the track list was created during the pandemic.

The trio were thankful and appreciative to their wives, they said. Another local aspect, which many youth can attest, is the connection and influence from the school's former music teacher Tom Regina, who has been retired for several years now. Regina's tenure included a long list of musical accomplishments, which included live local and out of the Haliburton County performances where the best high school musicians performed at various festivals and competitions.

The band praised the album's inside artwork by Poet Ever, a local artist whose work is showcased at the Limbic Collective in Haliburton.

The album is finished and is out there to purchase, but it really is the start of something more, Casper said.

"I think it's a starting point," Casper said.
"This album, event though it's our first and



North of Seven's Kyle Aggett performs during a concert held several weeks ago. Aggett and his bandmates are excited about sharing their first album, ... Just sit down with listeners.



North of Seven's Earl Johnson performs during a live performance held several weeks ago in Haliburton. Johnson said the debut album for the band included music that reflected the feelings felt during the pandemic. It was a message to let listeners know they weren't alone.



Lead singer and guitarist of North of Seven Eric Casper welcomes music lovers to check out the bands's debut album. /FILE Darren Lum Staff

only I don't plan it being the end. What we did is learn so much in the studio and now I'm just pumped to go back. Maybe when we go back to the studio we might not do a whole album to start. We'll get two or three songs down and then do another two. But now that we have that experience I'm so excited to go back and record more."

With the past two years living during the COVID-19 pandemic, it's difficult to deny the affect it has had on us emotionally Johnson said.

"That's where the album came from. It's from the pandemic, from the isolation, from the feelings everyone had, trying to live on their own," he said.

Music can be entertaining and a diversion, but in other ways it can be a unifier like this album.

Johnson said the dark tone of the music's content was a reflection and a reminder of what everyone endured around the world, including in the Highlands.

The message to the listener, he said, is "that they're not alone."

Casper said the next album for the band will be more upbeat, as far as tempo and rhythm. He is looking forward to working on an album with a new style.

These three go back with familiar academic experiences at HHSS. However, the

first time the band performed as North of Seven was at the Home Made Stew concert in 2020.

Back in the 1990s, Casper came to the area from Hamilton.

In Grade 9 or 10, Johnson remembers asking him about whether he played bass guitar or not. Although Casper said no he didn't, the bass guitar was handed to him anyways during a jamming session.

"You're playing bass," Johnson said at the time. Casper is playing bass now for the band, but music stuck.

Love to add a guitarist

The band is actively interested in having another band member to play guitar. This would enable Casper to enable him to play bass for live shows.

"So, if there is a guitar player out there ..." he said, laughing.

Aggett loved to see how they all were able to think on the spot when the situation called for it at the studio.

"Something that we've never done, never even heard some of it. And all of a sudden it's like, oh, man. That's super cool. Where did you get that from?" he said.

The evolution of the album happened quickly.

Aggett said initially the plan was for an acoustic sound, so a Cajun box was consid-

ered for percussion, but when they arrived at the studio they decided to use a drum kit. Aggett admitted it had been years since he regularly played, using a drum kit

"We just kind of decided that's how we were going to do it," he said. "We came up with some things on the spot. Kind of try to make it work. I loved how it came out. I loved how we worked together to make what it is now."

Johnson said the decision to switch up the sounds worked and brought more depth.

All three talked about how this album is a musical creation in the making over all the years they all have been with other bands.

"Sometimes it happens. You end up jamming with a band and never recording anything," he said. And, then it happens. Studio magic yields a creation that three long-time friends can be proud to share as their first, but not likely their last.

Purchase the album, which was produced by the band with producer David Joyce at Treblecock Studio in Peterborough, wherever the band performs, on their Facebook page, at Canoe FM in Haliburton, and through Russell Red Records at their store in Haliburton or on the store's website at www.russellredrecords.ca.

## Carve out a new experience with the Ski Patrol

by VIVIAN COLLINGS

Times Staff

Get ready to fasten your bindings and tighten your boots. A new snow season is upon us, and skiers and boarders at Sir Sam's can shred the slopes with peace of mind knowing they will be taken care of if anything goes awry.

This year, Sir Sam's Ski Patrol team is seeking new members.

"Ski resorts cannot function without a patrol on duty. Treating and transporting injured guests to an EMS access point is basically what we do. Doing this smoothly and professionally mitigates further injuries and promotes a speedy recovery," said George Sharp, ski patrol leader at Sir Sam's in Eagle Lake.

Gordon Graham has been a ski patroller at Sir Sam's Ski and Ride for five years with 10 years experience ski patrol-

He said his experience as a ski patroller has been enjoyable and fulfilling.

"Ski Patrolling is a very, very rewarding winter pastime. We all have become good friends on the patrol. It is an opportunity to learn a variety of skills, both on the ski hill and as first-aiders. Our patrollers qualify for the Red Cross Emergency Care for Professional Responder certificate on completion of the training," Graham said.

Sharp has been patrol leader of Sir Sam's Ski Patrol for the past 10 years, and has 20 more years of experience in addition.

"It has been a very rewarding 10 years, not only because one is able to give purpose to one's skiing, but because you can promote safe skiing and help people who, literally, run into problems on the hill," Sharp said.

Graham explained that each patroller is expected to put in 15 days of patrolling per year.

"Lots of patrollers do more. We set our own schedules though, to suit the times that we're available and if someone needs to exchange a shift, there is always someone ready to



Sir Sam's Ski Patrol has spots left for new potential patrollers and is preparing for their upcoming qualification weekends to be held in November. /Photo submitted

help out," he said.

Among being able to help anyone who may need it, patrol volunteers can also expect to make a few friends.

"All of our patrollers have a keen interest in alpine skiing. Patrolling brings like-minded people together. We are a very social group of volunteers," Sharp said.

He said ski patrol is a necessary service to any ski hill because it can ensure injuries are properly cared for on site.

Their training and certification is through the Red Cross EFR or EMR standard, but they accept Red Cross certifications on a case-by-case basis.

"There are also other training requirements throughout the

season such as toboggan handling and chairlift evacuation,"

Training will take place on Nov. 4, 5, and 6 for new members, and Nov. 11, 12, and 13 for members to renew their qualifications. Sharp said there are some vacancies left.

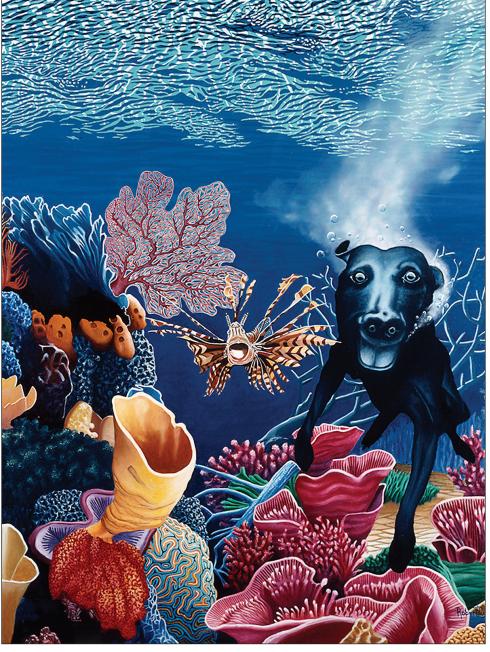
Those interested in joining the patrol can contact skipa-

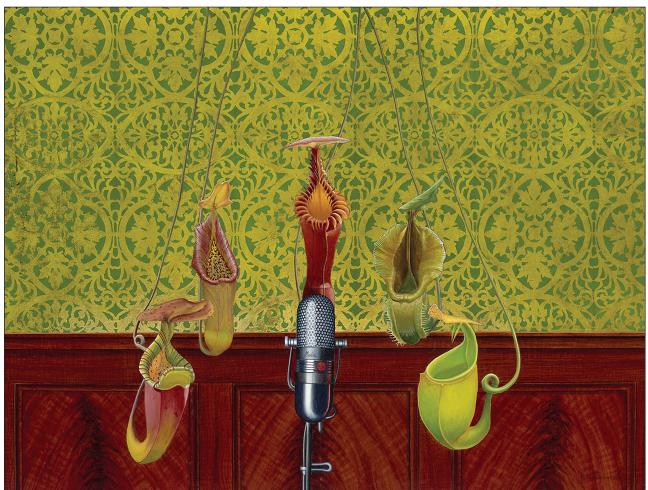
"Patrollers put in many, many unpaid hours to maintain their competencies and to ensure the ski hill is a safe environment, and we're really interested in attracting new member," Graham said. "It makes a long winter short. Spring and the end of the ski season always seem to come too soon."



## Capturing connections in the natural world

Fetch by Bob "Omar"
Tunnoch. Tunnoch
will be presenting this
painting, along with
a series of some of
his favourites in his
solo exhibition, The
Muse, Under the Thin
Blue Line at the Agnes
Jamieson Gallery
starting on Nov. 1.
/Submitted by Bob
Tunnoch





In Session, carnivorous plant choir by Bob "Omar" Tunnoch. Tunnoch strives to capture the intricacies of plant and animal life, using humour and hyper-realism. "I like to capture life forms in unusual situations," said Tunnoch. Tunnoch will be speaking about these complex natural relationships during an artist meet and greet at the Agnes Jamieson Gallery on Nov. 5 at 1:30 p.m. /Submitted by Bob Tunnoch

by EMILY STONEHOUSE

Times Staff

The natural world is beautiful, complex, and the primary inspiration for artist Bob Tunnoch.

"There are some amazing life forms out there," Tunnoch said. "It is so easy to forget what is out there until you really delve into how we are all connected."

Bob "Omar" Tunnoch is an artist and musician, who focuses on "life forms in unusual situations" via his high-realism exploratory works of art. He will be presenting his solo exhibition, The Muse, Under the Thin Blue Line at the Agnes Jamieson Gallery starting on Nov. 1.

The main theme of the show is to highlight the interconnected relationships between all species on earth, right down to the microscopic symbiotic relationships of plants and animals. Tunnoch, who's primary mediums are oil and mixed media, has had a lifelong fascination with the natural world, and uses painting as his outlet to share his perspective of the environment around him.

"There are things out there that humans just aren't seeing anymore these days," Tunnoch said. "Everything is connected in the natural world, and that includes humans."

Along with a focus on nature, Tunnoch said, "The Muse, Under the Thin Blue Line" will also speak to the modern relationship humans have with technology.

"We are all so involved with social media these days [and] entirely consumed by phones," he said.

With bold strokes, splashes of colour, and an array of thought-provoking, humorous, and elaborate images, this exhibit strives to encourage viewers to put their phones down and take in their surroundings in a more visceral manner. Tunnoch uses an example of a tree: While some people glance past their phones and just see a tree, if one takes a moment to really look, listen, and learn from the tree, they will see that there is an entire world. A fruitful ecosystem budding from the branches.

Tunnoch hopes to share the intricacies of these elaborate, minute worlds with viewers.

He will be at the Agnes Jamieson Gallery on Nov. 5 for the official opening of the exhibition from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., with his artist talk at 1:30 p.m.

As a professional musician and artist, Tunnoch is no stranger to these public talks, and lights up at the opportunity to discuss the beauty of the natural world he captures through his paintings. He is passionate about the interconnectedness of the world, and revels in the beauty of nature>s symbiotic relationships.

"We are all integrated together in one very large web," he said.

The Muse, Under the Thin Blue Line by Bob "Omar" Tunnoch is running at the Agnes Jamieson Gallery from Nov.1 to Dec. 20 with the official artist talk on Nov. 5 at 1:30 p.m.

Admission is by donation. For more information or questions regarding this exhibit, please, call the Community Services Department at 705-286-1260 x 542 or visit the Township of Minden Hills website at www.mindenhills.ca.



There are some amazing life forms out there ... It is so easy to forget what is out there until you really delve into how we are all connected.

— BOB TUNNOCH



#### **Music matters**

The Highlands Youth Choir, led by Beth Kipping, practices Memories by Maroon 5 as their first song of the night during their practice on Monday, Oct. 17. From left, Sophia Danilko, Mya Backus, Taliah Dumas Stephenson, at back, Róisií Hogan, Luna Scuhr Marziali, Fia Scuhr Marziali, and Evelyn Mardus enjoyed singing along with Kipping playing piano. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff



Sophia, from left, Mya, Luna, Fia, and Evelyn stand around Kipping's piano.



The Highlands Youth Choir sang between smiles and laughs with Kipping during their second practice of the

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Tuesday, Nov. 15 @ 7:30 p.m. **Trenton Golden Hawks** 

For more more information please visit our website

## Calling all citizen scientists

by EMILY STONEHOUSE

Times Staff

MISSING: Have you seen the lost lady-bugs of Haliburton County? The Haliburton Highlands Land Trust (HHLT) is in the process of finalizing data about a large project focusing on missing lady beetles in the area. "The hunt for 'missing' ladybugs is part of a larger HHLT project, funded by the Ontario government's Species at Risk Stewardship Fund," said Shelley Hunt, the lead on this project through the HHLT. "[It] has an overall goal to better understand the biodiversity of Haliburton County, particularly the presence and distribution of certain species at risk."

Through this initiative, there was a focus on finding two specific types: the nine-spotted lady beetle and the transverse lady beetle, both of which were some of the most common beetles in the area in the early 1900s, but have not been spotted since the 1980s. One of the main goals of the project was to educate explorers to search for these missing beetles.

"Although a long shot, it was hoped that we might discover a colony of these beetles somewhere on one of our Land Trust properties or beyond," said Ed Poropat, lead lady beetle surveyist. "If we don't look, we'll never know!"



Above, these seven-spotted lady beetles are very common in the region, and are an invasive species. There is a chance that the presence of this species has led to the decline of other natural beetle species in the area. /Submitted by Ed Poropat

Haliburton Highlands Land Trust (HHLT) are curious about learning more about through their "Missing Lady Beetle" initiative. This particular species of beetle is extremely rare, and according the HHLT website, "Instead of spots, look for two paired marks that look like quotations marks."

Below, a Parenthesis Lady Beetle, one of the species the



Another focus for the project was to hone in on a specific type of standardized survey protocol that could be applied to researching these beetles. Despite the proof that the species are disappearing, there is not one definitive approach at gathering research on them. Poropat confirms that the HHLT utilized four different types of survey methods for this project.

"All the data has now been collected, and we are in the process of analyzing it to determine the best method, the pros and cons of each," Poropat said.

The project was based out of two HHLT properties: the Barnum Creek Nature Reserve and the Dahl Forest. Despite more than 70 hours of searching, none of the "lost" species were located.

"The reasons for decline are not fully understood," said Poropat. "[They] might include introduction and competition by nonnative lady beetles, diseases, and pesticide use."

Poropat hopes that with the full analysis of the data retrieved, there may be more answers for the HHLT.

With the fragile state of the natural world, any loss of species could potentially have a greater impact on the rest of the ecosystem. "Are the disappearances of these species a signal of other deeper problems within our ecosystems?" Poropat said. "Time will tell, I guess, but we need to pay attention!"

The HHLT encourages individuals to continue to keep an eye out for these beetles, and if you think you see any, post on the app iNaturalist under the "Lady Beetles of Haliburton County" project or send an email, along with your contact information to admin@haliburtonlandtrust.ca.

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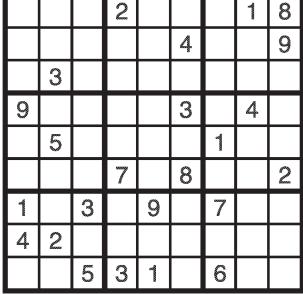
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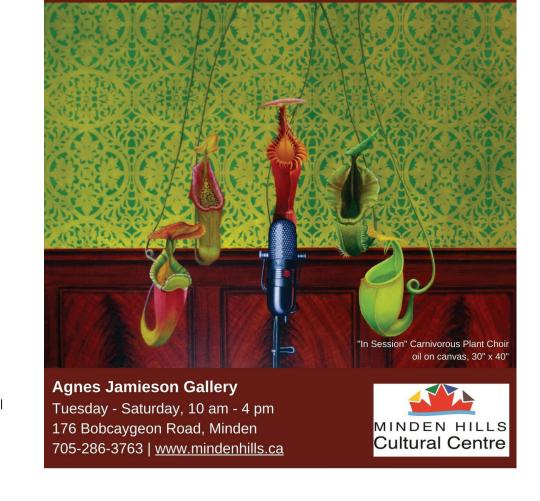
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Level: Advanced

#### Here's How It Works:

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## Living the good life

spring. It's the story of an old Black man with dementia holed up in a crammed apartment in a not-so-nice part of town, dependent on his nephew's occasional visits to keep him func-

tional. When that nephew dies – shot, no suspects - a young girl takes refuge with him, cleans up the joint, and is witness to Ptolomy participating in an experimental treatment for dementia that will restore his cognitive functioning for a while: the scientific question under study is how and for how long. Long enough, it turns out (in the world of Hollywood), for Ptolomy to identify the murderer and revenge his nephew's death, and address his childhood demons in order to locate and distribute his significant (and hitherto unsuspected) fortune with biblical righteousness. And then he sinks again into dementia and dies a prolonged and lonely death, consigned to a geezers' warehouse by his avaricious relatives, shackled in a cot, visited by no one save, once, by stealth, the young girl who support-

through the magic of love and money. Not a happy story. It reminds me of the book, Flowers for Algernon, written in 1966 by Daniel Keyes, later made into a movie called *Charly*. Charly is an illiterate boy with an IQ of 69, the butt of abuse

ed him to regain his life, and whose life he has transformed

by fellow workers and the boss in the bakery where he works. Apple+ streamed The Last Days of Ptolomy Grey last He is invited to participate as a human subject in a trial treatment that had spectacularly increased the intelligence of Algernon, a mouse. Charly takes the treatment, becomes a certified genius, and falls in love with his teacher, who falls

> in love with him, perhaps for the miracle he is. Then Algernon's intelligence begins to fade, and Charly's inevitable decline becomes clear. Also, not a happy story.

> But the theme is movie-worthy because it reflects our ongoing concern about how our cognitive functioning defines us. And, in an aging demography, how and by whom the gaps will be bridged as our brains age and change and become insufficient to the tasks at hand. Science to date, as for Charly and Ptolomy, offers only temporary reprieve. COVID may have undermined our confidence in pharmacology as a magic bullet for all that ails us. And if that's so, we may open our minds to the lessons of Ptolomy and Charly, that

human connection is what differentiates a living death from

Neither movie treats us to a lively death, the kind where you're fully alive until you're fully dead. I expected, Hollywood being Hollywood, that Ptolomy would die by gunfire as he shoots his nephew's murderer, going out in a

blaze of glory. But no, his ending is protracted and ugly in the extreme, the worst of long term "care." And we don't know whether Charly's teacher and the other members of the research team who became his friends when he was brilliant maintain their connection and affection when he is once again simple-minded. But both Ptolomy and Charly experienced the fullness of life, if but briefly, and convey the sense that, while it could have been better, it was good enough. Death isn't a body in a grave; it's a life not fully lived.

And that is a happy thought. We have limited control over our physical death, but considerably more about the attitude we bring to our life. As we become practiced at living life well, we are better prepared to figure out how to die well. We will become more comfortable with exercising the choices we now have, including limited rights to a medically assisted death, and to lobby rationally and reasonably for those rights to be extended and respected.

Rights always come ballasted by responsibilities. As the demography ages, we owe it to ourselves, individually and collectively, to learn how to live well and to die well, and to know the difference.

Fay Martin is a long-retired social worker whose memoir, Dementia Widow, is nearing completion.



martin

# Be mindful to avoid

Every year in Ontario, there are about 12,000 deer and wildand November, which is peak breeding season for deer.

- •By being aware of this and following a few simple tips, drivers can give themselves the driving advantage and help
- These areas have a high frequency of animal crossings.
- Monitor your speed. By obeying the posted speed limit, you
- •Be careful at the ends of fence lines. Animals may be following the fence line and looking to cross the roadway at their
- look ahead of you as you drive. It is common for animals to wait alongside the roadway or in the ditch, prior to crossing.
- ing eyes of animals.
- •Never swerve suddenly. This can cause you to lose control
- an animal standing in or crossing the roadway.
- Deer rarely travel alone. If you see one, there is a good chance there are more.

Submitted by OPP

## wildlife collisions

life collisions, leading to approximately 400 human injuries per year. These collisions tend to happen one hour before dawn or after dusk. Although collisions with wildlife happen year-round, the most dangerous conditions occur in October

## avoid a collision:

- Pay extra attention in areas where wildlife signs are posted.
- increase your reaction time and decrease your vehicles braking distance - helping you avoid a possible collision.
- first opportunity. • Be alert at all times. Scan your surroundings constantly and
- Use your high beams when possible and look for the glow-
- of your vehicle or head into oncoming traffic. • Brake firmly but maintain control of your vehicle if you see

## **SUDOKU SOLUTION**

6	4	9	2	7	5	3	1	8
5	1	7	8	3	4	2	6	9
2	3	8	9	6	1	4	5	7
9	7	2	1	5	3	8	4	6
8	5	4	6	2	9	1	7	3
3	6	1	7	4	8	5	9	2
1	8	3	4	9	6	7	2	5
4	2	6	5	8	7	9	3	1
7	9	5	3	1	2	6	8	4



#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills proposes to consider by-laws to stop up, close, and convey those parcels of land more particularly described as follows:

File No. PLSRA2021037: Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Gull Lake, lying in front 1053 Sandy Bay Road located within Lot 7, Concession 12, Geographic Township of Lutterworth

- 1. File No. PLSRA2021091: Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Soyers Lake, lying in front of 1065 Hidden Valley Lane located within Lot 25, Concession 8, Geographic Township of Minden
- 2. File No. PLSRA2021092: Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Soyers Lake, lying in front of 1075 Hidden Valley Lane located within Lot 25, Concession 8, Geographic Township of Minden
- 3. File No. PLSRA2022007: Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Brady Lake, lying in front of vacant lands having Roll Number 4616-020-000-03600 located within Lot 2, Concession 4, Geographic Township of Hindon
- 4. File No. PLSRA2022028: Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Davis Lake, lying in front of 1069 Century Lane located within Lot 7, Concession 2, Geographic Township of Lutterworth
- 5. File No. PLSRA2022032: Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of South Lake, lying in front of 1059 Whispering Pines Trail located within Lot 6, Concession 14, Geographic Township of Snowdon.
- 6. File No. PLSRA2021077: Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of East Moore Lake, lying in front of 1382 Wessell Road located within Lot 23, Concession 5, Geographic Township of Lutterworth

The above noted applications are available for inspection in the Building and Planning Department located at 7 Milne Street, Minden, Ontario by appointment only. Additional information may be obtained by contacting the undersigned or by visiting www.mindenhills.ca/newsroom.

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE any person who claims that their land will be prejudicially affected is asked to contact the undersigned at their earliest convenience. If deemed advisable, By-laws giving effect to the proposed closure and conveyance will be passed by the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills.

Amanda Dougherty, B.A. (Hons) Township Planning Consultant 705-742-2297x278 adougherty@mindenhills.ca







After two separate stints and many years with the Haliburton County Echo and Minden Times, Darren is leaving to pursue the next chapter in his life. Always the consummate professional, Darren worked tirelessly to shoot that perfect photo, write a meaningful editorial, or present an interesting and thought provoking story to our readers.

We want to say thank you for everything you have accomplished, and wish you all the best!









\*\*\*

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In Loving Memory of

#### **Grant James Graham**

'The Mayor of Irondale' Oct. 13, 1952 - Oct. 18, 2022

Passed away peacefully at the Haliburton Hospital at the age of 70.

Predeceased by his parents Jake and Mary (Simmons) Graham.

Dear youngest brother of Ross, Shirley Hewitt (d. 2003), Gwen Mitchell (d. 2022), Ronnie, Mary (d. 2022), Merle, June Shepstone, Cecil, Barbara Johnston, Gordon and Donna McCormick.

Grant will be missed by his many nieces, nephews and friends, leaving behind lots of good times, laughs and memories.

Grant lived all his life in Irondale but enjoyed trips to both East and West coasts, Nashville and Graceland. He loved playing cards, hunting in his earlier years, ATVing and playing horseshoes.

Special thanks to Grant's dear friend Wendy and all the caring staff at the Haliburton Hospital.

At Grant's request, there will be no service. Cremation has taken place. Donations can be made to the Heart and Stroke Foundation.

"Chow Chow" Grant. You will always be around us is spirit.





**Haliburton Echo & Minden Times** 

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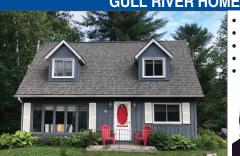






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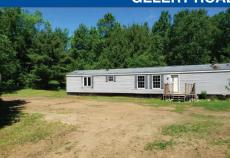


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# The Times

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## **Development Corporation** ready for official opening

Starting up a business is, for many people, a dream they keep in the back of their head, something to think about on the way home from work. And unfortunately, for lack of money and knowhow, that's usually where it remains. In Haliburton County, going into business can be especially tricky. The winter unemployment rate is 20 per cent and higher, the nearest large market is a drive of two and a half hours to the south, and then, of course, there's the problem of skilled labour - there isn't

Nobody said it was easy. But there are signs things are getting better. This past summer, many lodges and construction companies are reporting, was the best on record. Unemployment figures for the last six months are below previous averages and property values - one of the main indicators of economic health - are up.

So if there ever was a time to start up a business, it's now. And for the first time in the county, there's an institution designed specifically to cater to the needs of novice entre-preneurs. It's called the Haliburton County Development Corporation and its offices are in the Village of Haliburton on York Street, adjacent to the Rails' End Gallery.

The purpose of the corporation is to give serious entrepreneurs the boost they need to put their ideas to work. In practical terms, that means making loans - for as much as \$25,000 - and providing clients with information and assistance in getting their business going. Because it's part of a federal government project, the corporation can offer the same interest rates you'd find at a bank, but ask for less security. Even more encouraging, it can give flexible repayment terms. The board of governors seventeen businessmen from across the county understand the cylical tourist-bound economy of the Highlands and when a client says that things are tough in winter, they'll know what he's talking about.

Andy Campbell is

manager of the Haliburton County Development

Corporation. "Primarily," says Campbell, mandate is to increase employment in the county. Since new businesses create the most jobs, that's what we're interested in, but we'll also look at companies that want to expand as well as certain municipally sponsored projects.

Even if it's just a guy and his wife who want to start up a motel so they can work for themselves, that's two jobs being created, we feel we can be of assistance there as

Besides lack of start-up funds, one of the biggest problems novice entrepreneurs face, is not having the necessary know-how. To some extent, says Campbell, the corporation can be of assistance there as well.

"A lot of people will come to me and say, 'Hey, I've got this great idea for a business and I just have this feeling it'll work.' But a feeling is not enough. Anyone who lends money these days wants to see a business plan; an explanation of exactly how the new business is going to run, the nature and demand for its product and

growth projections.

"Ideally, that's what we want on the table in front of us when someone comes asking for money. A wellwritten and organized plan is the best argument someone who is going into business can make for himself."

But obviously, explains Campbell, the corporation doesn't expect that of everyone. Besides lending money, its primary purpose is to help new business people by showing them how to put together a business plan.

"If someone comes to me with an idea for a business but doesn't quite understand how to put it into action, I'll help him. I'll assist - free of charge - in putting the plan together, and when it's done, the client is under no obligation to come to the corporation for money. He's free to take it to a bank or anywhere else he chooses.

Besides help in putting business plans together, the development corporation also offers courses, in co-operation with Sir Sandford

(more on page 5)



The ball, safely tucked under his arm, Redmen football runner Wayne Coates heads downfield during a game Thursday at HHSS. Both the junior and senior teams lost to LCVI. For a complete report on the action, see page



The latest in Fall and Winter fashions were on display Friday at PineStone Inn during the Fall Fashion Showcase presented by area merchants. For more photos, see page 10.

## Fall back this weekend

Remember that hour of sleep you lost way back in the spring when the clocks were moved ahead to accommodate Daylight Savings Time? Well, you're about to get it back.

This weekend, clocks revert to Standard Time. If you're confused about which way to move the hands of time, simply remember the adage, Spring ahead, Fall

Move your clocks back one hour when you retire Saturday evening and gain the extra hour of sleep that you missed so dearly last spring.



The Paint & Renovation Sale

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#### North Pigeon Lake \$799,000

- 3 bedroom / 1 bathroom, 900 SqFt • Fully Winterized, Newly Built Bunkie
- Large Updated Windows Overlooking Lake
- Breathtaking Sunrise Views





Kennisis Lake \$3,875,000

- 4 Beds / 3 Bath Home or Ctg w/ 255ft frontage
- Detachéd 2 Car Grg, Waters Edge Flagstone Firepit
- Games Rm, Home Gym, Elaborate Lakeside Deck
- Additional 2.3 Acres Ávailable for Purchase



Haliburton Home \$950,000

• 2.3 Acres, 3 Season Screened Porch

• New 24x40 Detached Heated Shop

• 3 Beds, 3 Baths, 2100+ Sq Ft

· Beautiful View of Barnum lake



#### HALIBURTON HOME - \$509,900

- 0.52 Acres, 132 Ft Road Frontage, 1321 Sq Ft
- 3 Bdrm, 4 pc, Bath, Many Upgrades
- Attached Workshop, Metal Roof, Dbl Driveway
- Walk to Town Amenities, Minutes to Boat Launch





Hunter Creek Rd \$975,000

·Class B licensed pit & quarry

· 88 acres close to Minden

Potential to sever lots

**NEW PRIC** 



Beech Lake \$819.000

- Open concept 3-season cottage with 4 bedrooms
- Oversized 1 car-garage with & updated bunkle
- Clean, hard-packed sand beach & big lake views
- Amazing afternoon sun & sunsets!



• 98 acres north of Carnarvon

3300 feet Hwy 35 frontage

Driveway in, site cleared

Acreage & Building Lot for \$499,000

Financing may be available to qualified buyer



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#### Loon Lake \$1,150,000

- 4 season cottage or home, 3 bedrooms + office Updated throughout with stunning landscaping
- 1,750 SQ FT garage or shop w/ separate driveway Large dock across the road with great lake access





- Rustic 3-bedroom cottage on Wenona Lake • 101' frontage, good privacy, great shoreline.
- Get started in cottage living!





#### Oblong Lake \$649,000

- 0.9-acre parcel with north-western exposure
- Over 700 feet of clean, sand & rock frontage Driveway installed & building site partially cleared
- Part of a 2-lake chain with premium Haliburton



Saskatchewan Lake \$595,000

The Perfect Traditional Cottage Getaway!

• 2 Beds / 1 Bath, 800 Sq Ft

• 344ft of Flat, Level Shoreline

• Bunkie for Overflow Guests

Loop Road

Very Private

•4+ Acreage in Harcourt

• \$189.000







**Building Lot on Private Lake!** 

- 4.54 Acre Waterfront Building Lot
- Over 436ft of West Facing Waterfront
- Private, Year Round Road



Haliburton Home \$850.000

• Close to town, snowmobile trails & lake • Fibre Optic Internet; Dr. Well, Septic

4 Bed, 2 Bath open concept home

• 3000+ sq. ft; W/O Bsmt; AC, FP







#### Haliburton Condo \$695,000

- Luxurious waterfront condo in Haliburton
- 1117 sq ft, 2 bath, 2 bedrooms plus den/office
- Many upgrades plus incredible water views from every room!











#### Investment Opportunity! \$495,000

- 5 Bdrm/2 Bath, 2200 Sq Ft
- •1.6 Acré, Features Legal Duplex
- Desirable Area Btwn Carnarvon & Haliburton Many Upgrades, Needs Finishing Touches!



Beautiful Country Home \$699,000 •3 Beds / 2 Bath, 1800 Sq Ft

•1.39 Acres, Huge Pond w/Sand Beach Area •Detached 17x30 Garage/Workshop

Access to Clement Lake Boat Launch







- Wiley Lake \$299,000 Secluded parcel with 130 FT of lake frontage
- Clean shoreline with North-Western exposure
- 2.3-acres to build your dream Haliburton escape Quiet, no motor lake with great fishing & paddling!



Tory Hill Home \$799,000

3 Bedrooms / 1 Bathroom, 1400+ Sq Ft

· Sits on 2.96 Acres, Cutest Little Hobby Farm!

Beautiful Gardens & Very Well Maintained Barn

Several Choices of Building Sites







- Gull River \$600,000 • 3 Beds / 2 Baths, 2500 + SqFt
- •1.77 Acres of Privacy, 20x20 workshop
- 3-Season (10x14) Sunroom
- 580ft of Pristine Riverfront on Gull River

We are open for business!

Our REALTORS will be following certain protocols to ensure our clients' safety.

> Contact us to learn more about our updated practices.

## CENTURY 21

**Granite Realty Group Inc.** 

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